

Lomongo : Phonology Practice QE

Due 5/15/2008

May 12, 2008

1 Instructions

Don't wait to get started! This is a difficult set of data and the analytical requirements are steep. The data below is from Lomongo, a Bantu language spoken in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Your job is to provide an analysis that meets all of the requirements below.

What you're allowed to do

You may consult all the notes and readings from this semester and last semester. You may consult the textbook from last semester. You may consult any part of the Kenstowicz 1994 textbook or the Kager 1999 textbook from which many of our readings have been drawn. You may ask me questions, and you may work together, but write-ups must be done individually (In the actual exam, you are not allowed to work together. But for this practice, you may).

What you're not allowed to do

You may not research Lomongo specifically, or consult the original source.

Analytical requirements

Your write-up should consist of four parts.

Part 1 = Introduction

Describe in prose the various processes and patterns present in the Lomongo data. Illustrate with examples. Provide an overview of major issues parts 2-4 will address.

Parts 2 and 3 = Derivational and OT analyses

In part 2, provide a derivational analysis for the segmental and tonal phenomena in the data. In part 3, provide an OT analysis of the segmental phenomena in the data. If you wish, you may also account for the tone as well in OT, but this is optional. For each analysis make sure you:

1. make explicit any assumptions you make (especially with respect to phonological representations, such as features, etc.),
2. posit underlying forms for all affixes and roots,
3. define (and name) rules/constraints clearly,
4. justify any rule orderings/constraint rankings, and
5. provide derivations/OT tableaux with well-picked examples to illustrate your analysis.

In part 3, the OT analysis, if you make the same assumptions, you don't have to print them all out again, just say they are the same. Of course, if some assumptions are different—e.g. if you use a different UR—then please point that out.

Part 4 = Comparison

All theorizing is comparative. In this spirit, the fourth part of the exam asks you to compare and contrast the derivational analyses you developed for the data sets with the OT analyses you developed for the data sets, formulating **specific arguments** in favor of one and/or the other. Support your arguments whenever possible with reference to the data and to the relevant aspects of the analysis. Avoid making blanket statements without support. It is not necessary that your arguments all lead to the same conclusion (it will probably be more interesting if they do not).

Arguments could be based, for example, on the relative complexity of the analyses, or on your assessment of how well they capture certain generalizations. You could also construct hypothetical arguments based on predictions that the analyses make about this language, or about languages in general. For example, you could construct some hypothetical underlying representations, and then show that the different analyses would map them to different surface representations.

2 Data

Notes

- All the following forms—except for the first column—are present tense.
- Tones:

- Vowels (and nasals) with the acute accent (**á**) indicates high tone.
- Vowels with the circumflex (**â**) indicates falling tone.
- Vowels which are unaccented (**a**) indicate low tone.

- Sounds [d͡ʒ] and [t͡ʃ] are in free variation with [d͡z] and [t͡s]. You do not need to account for this fact.

Set 1

<i>Imp.</i>	<i>1 sg.</i>	<i>2 sg.</i>	<i>3 sg.</i>	<i>1 pl.</i>	<i>2 pl.</i>	<i>3 pl.</i>	<i>Gloss</i>
saŋgá	ńsaŋga	ósaŋga	ásaŋga	tósaŋga	lósaŋga	básaŋga	‘say’
kambá	ɲkamba	ókamba	ákamba	tókamba	lókamba	bákamba	‘work’
d͡zilá	ńd͡zila	ód͡zila	ád͡zila	tód͡zila	lód͡zila	bád͡zila	‘wait’
éna	ńd͡zéna	wéna	éna	t͡ʃwéna	d͡ʒwéna	béna	‘see’
ísa	ńd͡zisa	wisa	ísa	t͡ʃwisa	d͡ʒwisa	bisa	‘hide’
iméd͡zá	ńd͡zimed͡za	wimed͡za	imed͡za	t͡ʃwimed͡za	d͡ʒwimed͡za	bimed͡za	‘consent’
iná	ńd͡zina	wina	ina	t͡ʃwina	d͡ʒwina	bina	‘hate’
bína	ńbína	óína	áína	tóína	lóína	báína	‘dance’
báta	ńbáta	óáta	ááta	tóáta	lóáta	bááta	‘get’
bóta	ńbóta	óóta	áóta	tóóta	lóóta	báóta	‘beget’
mélá	ńmela	ómela	ámela	tómela	lómela	bámela	‘drink’
lóma	ńdóma	ólóma	álóma	tólóma	lólóma	bálóma	‘kiss’
lɔndá	ńdɔnda	ólɔnda	álɔnda	tólɔnda	lólɔnda	bálɔnda	‘chase’
usá	ńd͡zusa	wusa	usa	t͡ʃwusa	d͡ʒwusa	busa	‘throw’
asá	ńd͡zasa	wasa	asa	t͡ʃwasa	d͡ʒwasa	basa	‘search’

Set 2

<i>Imp.</i>	<i>Pass. imp.</i>	<i>Caus. imp.</i>	<i>Applied</i>	<i>Applied imp.</i>	<i>Caus. applied imp.</i>	<i>Gloss</i>
báka	bákwa	bákja	-bákela	bákélá	bákéd͡zá	‘fasten’
kotá	kot͡ʃwá	kot͡ʃá	-kotela	kotélá	kotéd͡zá	‘perch’
méŋga	méŋgwa	méŋgja	-méŋgela	méŋgélá	méŋgéd͡zá	‘sway’
kondá	kond͡zwa	kond͡zá	-kondela	kondélá	kondéd͡zá	‘cover with sand’
kɔfá	kɔfwá	kɔfjá	-kɔfela	kɔfélá	kɔféd͡zá	‘have an accident’
túla	túd͡zwa	túd͡za	-túlela	túlélá	túléd͡zá	‘forge’
bíla	bíd͡zwa	bíd͡za	-bílela	bílélá	bíléd͡zá	‘pull’